

Patent No. 6,854,149

Request for Cert. of Correction dated July 5, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 0388-043653

10/796558

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. : 6,854,249 *B1* Confirmation No. 1064
Inventor : Samejima et al.
Issued : February 15, 2005
Title : Lawn Mower
Examiner : Robert E. Pezzuto
Customer No. : 28289

Certificate
JUL 13 2005
of Correction

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF PATENT
FOR PTO MISTAKE (37 C.F.R. 1.322(a))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: Decision and Certificate of Correction Branch
Patent Issue Division

Sir:

In accordance with 35 U.S.C. §254, we attach hereto Form PTO/SB/44 and a copy of proof of PTO's error and request that a Certificate of Correction be issued in the above-identified patent. The following error appears in the patent as printed:

Column 7, Line 2, Claim 3, "fist tension clutch" should read -- first tension clutch --
(See application filed March 9, 2004, page 13, Claim 3, line 5.)

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By

Russell D. Orkin
Registration No. 25,363
Attorney for Registrants
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1845
Telephone: (412) 471-8815
Facsimile: (412) 471-4094
E-mail: webblaw@webblaw.com

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,854,249 **B1**
DATED : February 15, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Samejima et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 7, Line 2, Claim 2, "fist tension clutch" should read:
-- first tension clutch --

{W0197138.1}

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

The Webb Law Firm
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1845

PATENT NO. 6,854,249 **B1**

No. of additional copies



This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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JUL 14 2005

LAWN MOWER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

5 The present invention relates to a lawn mower adapted to collect grass clippings cut by a mower unit in a grass collecting apparatus mounted rearwardly of a vehicle body.

Description of the Related Art

10 A conventional lawn mower of the above-noted type is known from U.S. Patent No. 5,224,327 and Japanese Patent Application "Kokai" No. 8-322355, for example, which comprises a mower unit including a mower deck having bar blades driven to rotate about vertical axes and a grass clippings discharge outlet formed in a side end of the mower deck, the mower unit being attached to a vehicle body to be vertically movable, a
15 grass collecting apparatus mounted rearwardly of the vehicle body, and a blower unit mounted above the grass clippings discharge outlet of the mower deck to be driven by a vertical shaft and operatively connected to a blade driving line, wherein grass clippings discharged from the grass clippings discharge outlet are forcibly transported to the grass collecting
20 apparatus through the blower unit and a duct.

 The conventional lawn mower noted above employs a belt transmission mechanism in which a blade drive shaft of the bar blade positioned closest to the grass clippings discharge outlet is interlocked with a lower end portion of an intermediate vertical shaft by winding a belt
25 thereon while an upper end portion of the intermediate vertical shaft is interlocked with an impeller drive shaft projecting upwardly of a blower housing by winding a belt thereon, thereby to transmit power taken from the blade driving line provided above the mower deck to a blower input portion provided in a higher position. With this arrangement, however,
30 the relay intermediate vertical shaft is mounted forwardly of the blower

3. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the belt transmission unit includes belt pulleys mounted on the blade drive shaft and the intermediate vertical shaft, a first belt wound around the pulleys,
5 and a first tension clutch switchable between a disengaging position for breaking the power transmission ability of the first belt and an engaging position for maintaining the power transmission ability of the first belt.

4. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the belt transmission unit includes belt pulleys mounted on the vertical drive shaft
10 and the intermediate vertical shaft, a second belt wound around the pulleys, and a second tension clutch switchable between a disengaging position for breaking the power transmission ability of the second belt and an engaging position for maintaining the power transmission ability of the second belt.

15 5. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the tension pulley of the first tension clutch and the tension pulley of the second tension clutch are displaceable about a common pivotal axis.

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